



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Senate Committee Restores GCA to Budget**

## *Arts Agency Executive Director Responds to Announcement*

**ATLANTA** - Georgia Council for the Arts Executive Director Susan Weiner disseminated a statewide message today to clients, colleagues and supporters of the agency. The statement was in response to the announcement that the Senate Appropriations Committee will restore the Governor's budget recommendation for Georgia Council for the Arts of \$890,735 which will allow the agency to match its federal grants and retain regional funding.

"Georgia Council for the Arts is thankful that the Georgia Senate Appropriations Committee has voted to include the Governor's recommendation in its budget. With the votes of the full Senate and the Conference Committee, Georgia will not lose its federal and regional funding. Though our State funding will be down 88% from fiscal year 2008, GCA can continue to support our highly productive nonprofit arts industry."

Weiner taped a segment on Monday morning that is scheduled to air on Georgia Public Broadcasting's *Lawmakers* news program tonight at 7:00 P.M. During the segment, she discusses the proposed budget.

Georgia Council for the Arts is the state agency that provides support for nonprofit arts organizations in Georgia. Established in 1965 as the Georgia Commission on the Arts, its mission is to encourage excellence in the arts, support the arts' many forms of expression and create access to the arts for all Georgians by providing funding, leadership, programming and other services. Funding for Georgia Council for the Arts is provided by appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly, the National Endowment for the Arts and other public and private sources.

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